

Michael F. Easley
Governor



State of North Carolina Office of the Governor

For Release: **IMMEDIATE**
Date: June 6, 2008

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GOV. EASLEY APPOINTS COWAN TO JUDICIAL COUNCIL

RALEIGH – Gov. Mike Easley has appointed **Don Cowan** of Raleigh to the State Judicial Council.

Cowan is a partner at Smith Moore LLP. He is a member of the Wake Forest University Board of Trustees, past president of the North Carolina Bar Association and adjunct professor at the Duke University School of Law. Cowan received the N.C. Defense Attorneys Professional Excellence Award in 2006. He received his Bachelor's degree in philosophy from Wake Forest University and his Juris Doctorate from the Wake Forest University School of Law.

The council advises the chief justice of the N.C. Supreme Court on priorities for funding, recommends guidelines for the assignment and management of cases, recommends changes in the boundaries of judicial districts and recommends performance standards for all judicial officials. The council has 18 members, each serving a four-year term. The governor appoints two members. The Senate President Pro Tempore, Speaker of the House and chief justice of the state Supreme Court each appoint two members. The chief justice of the state Supreme Court and chief judge of the N.C. Court of Appeals also serve on the council.

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